

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A hands-free device for use with a mobile terminal, the mobile terminal including an amplifier for amplifying an audio signal that is received by the mobile terminal, a switch for selecting between a speaker of the mobile terminal and an external speaker, and an output port for electrically connecting the hands-free device to the mobile terminal, the hands-free device comprising:

the external speaker electrically connected to the amplifier through the output port;

an external microphone electrically connected to the output port; and
means for attaching the external speaker and the external microphone to a mobile terminal user.

2. The hands-free device claimed in claim 1, wherein the external speaker and the external microphone are fixedly attached to the user at positions providing a constant spatial separation.

3. The hands-free device claimed in claim 1, further comprising an ear bud.

4. The hands-free device claimed in claim 1, wherein the external speaker is driven by an external amplifier that is powered by an external battery.

5. The hands-free device claimed in claim 4, wherein the external speaker and the external battery share a common housing.

6. The hands-free device claimed in claim 1, wherein the external speaker and the external microphone share a common housing.

7. The hands-free device claimed in claim 1, further comprising a mode select switch to switch between the external speaker or an internal speaker.

8. The hands-free device claimed in claim 7, wherein the mode select switch, the external speaker and the external microphone share a common housing.

5 9. The hands-free device claimed in claim 7, wherein the mode select switch and the external microphone share a common housing.

10 10. The hands-free device claimed in claim 1, wherein the external speaker is slideably affixed to and substantially supported by a lanyard.

11. The hands-free device claimed in claim 10, wherein the external speaker is positioned at a bottommost position on the lanyard.

12. The hands-free device claimed in claim 10, wherein the external speaker is driven by an external amplifier that is powered by an external battery, wherein the external battery is supported by the lanyard.

13. The hands-free device claimed in claim 10, wherein the external speaker, the external microphone, and the external battery share a common housing.

14. The hands-free device claimed in claim 1, wherein the external speaker comprises a plurality of speakers that are supported by a lanyard and positioned at equidistant positions on the lanyard.

15. A hands-free device for use with a mobile terminal, the mobile terminal including an output port for electrically connecting the hands-free device to the mobile terminal and an amplifier for powering a speaker, the hands-free device comprising:

- an external amplifier electrically connected to the output port for amplifying an audio signal received from the mobile terminal;
- a wearable speaker electrically connected to the external amplifier;
- an external microphone electrically connected to the output port; and

means for attaching the wearable speaker and the microphone to the hands-free device user.

5 16. The hands-free device claimed in claim 15, wherein a spatial separation between the wearable speaker and the external microphone is fixed.

17. The hands-free device claimed in claim 15, further comprising an ear bud.

10 18. The hands-free device claimed in claim 15, wherein the external amplifier is powered by an external battery.

19. The hands-free device claimed in claim 18, wherein the wearable speaker and the external battery share a common housing.

15 20. The hands-free device claimed in claim 15, further comprising a mode select switch to switch between the external speaker or an internal speaker.

20 21. The hands-free device claimed in claim 20, wherein the mode select switch and the external microphone share a common housing.